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Conference Proceedings Abstract

SANITATION SAFETY PLANS FOR SAFE MANAGEMENT AND VALORIZATION OF FAECAL SLUDGE

G. Cissé*, K. Medlicott, T.A. Stenström**, M. Winkler*, L. Strande***, P. Drechsel******

* Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH), Socinstrasse 57, 4002 Basel, Switzerland
** World Health Organization (WHO)
*** Eawag: Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, Sandec: Department of Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries
**** International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Abstract

In many developing countries, inappropriate management is severely affecting the overall sanitation system, including particularly the safe disposal of solid wastes, faecal sludge and wastewater. Despite significant investments in improved sanitation and sewer systems, on-site sanitation systems like latrines and septic tanks are still the most common systems in urban areas of low-income countries. Recovering water, nutrients and energy from liquid and solid wastes can be a crucial part of sustainable sanitation management. However, faecal sludge management including reuse has to consider a range of important public health and environmental concerns that need to be addressed. The WHO suggests developing the concept of Sanitation Safety Plans (SSP) to operationalize the Guidelines for the Safe Use of Wastewater, Excreta and Greywater in Agriculture and Aquaculture (WHO 2006). A new 3-year project "Resource Recovery and Reuse" (RRR), involving two international organizations (WHO, IWMI), two advanced research institutes (SANDEC-EAWAG, Swiss TPH) and an international capacity building centre for water management services (CEWAS), is about to implement two lines of activities: (i) Analyzing the viability of existing RRR business cases and the feasibility of replicating their business models in four different cities, and (ii) Developing Sanitation Safety Plans to support safe RRR in general, with field-testing in the same four cities. Several of the business models based on the valorisation of faecal sludge will be tested for their replication potential, scalability and robustness. This presentation will focus on the SSP manual development and its six distinct tasks, and complement some other project related communications at the FSM2 conference.